

REMARKS

Claims 1-5 remain in this application. Claims 6-28 and 30-52 have been withdrawn. Claim 29 has been canceled without prejudice and claims 53-55 are new.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner has acknowledged that claims 4 and 5 are directed to allowable subject matter. Claims 4 and 5 have been rewritten as requested independent form including all of the limitations of their base claim and intervening claims. Claim 5 has further been amended for proper antecedence. The Applicants gratefully acknowledge allowance of subject matter of Claims 4 and 5.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 2,337,625 by Sacksteder. The Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. Obviousness under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) requires that all the limitations of a claim must be taught or suggested by the prior art. M.P.E.P. § 2143.03 (citing *In re Royka*, 490 F.2d 981, 985, 180 U.S.P.Q. 580, 583 (C.C.P.A. 1974)). A *prima facie* case of obviousness requires three basic criteria:

First, there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings. Second, there must be a reasonable expectation of success. Finally, the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations. The teaching or suggestion to make the claimed combination and the reasonable expectation of success must both be found in the prior art, not in applicant's disclosure.

M.P.E.P. § 2143 (citing *In re Vaeck*, 947 F.2d 488, 493, 20 U.S.P.Q.2d 1438, 1442 (Fed. Cir. 1991)).

As stated in the Office Action, Sacksteder fails to disclose a coin collection system for a gaming machine, as claimed in Claim 1. Because Sacksteder fails to teach or suggest the use of its coin handling mechanism with a gaming machine, the Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 1-3 are allowable for at least the reason that they recite coin collection systems for a

gaming machine—a limitation not taught or suggested by Sacksteder. Claim 1 has been amended to further point out qualities of a gaming machine and to more clearly indicate that the coin collection system is adapted for use with a gaming machine. Claims 1-3 are believed to be in condition for allowance and action toward that end is earnestly solicited.

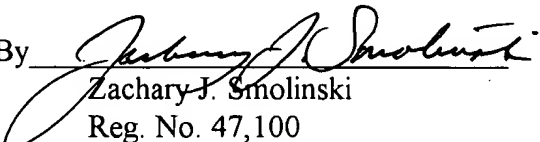
New Claims

New Claims 53-55 are directed to methods of dispensing coins from a gaming machine and are believed to be in condition for allowance. Claims 53 and 54 are believed to be in condition for allowance for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to claims 1 and 2, and claim 55 is believed to be in condition for allowance for at least the same reason as claim 4.

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

It is believed that no fee is presently due; however, should any additional fees be required (except for payment of the issue fee), the Commissioner is authorized to deduct the fees from Jenkins & Gilchrist, P.C. Deposit Account No. 10-0447, Order No. 47079-00091.

Respectfully submitted,

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